

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 129948

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, MASS, US, LA

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATIONS ON FUTURE LAOS POLICY

REFERENCE: VIENTIANE 3953

FOR HABIB FROM ZURHELLEN.

DELIVER HABIB DURING WAKING HOURS.

1. RE PARA. 5 REFTTEL, GALEN STONE CONFIRMATION HEARING SCHEDULED WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4. HE IS ON SAME BILL WITH MOYNIHAN (UN), TOON (ISRAEL), AND HOLDRIDGE (SINGAPORE). IT IS THEREFORE LIKELY THAT PUBLICITY REGARDING HIS APPEARANCE, IF ANY, WILL BE GREATLY OVERSHADOWED BY TESTIMONY OF OTHERS APPEARING AT SAME TIME. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF WE WERE TO REQUEST COMMITTEE TO DELAY STONE'S HEARING, THIS WOULD ATTRACT ATTENTION AND PERHAPS MAKE EVENTUAL HEARING MORE DIFFICULT.

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2. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, WE HAVE CONCLUDED IT BEST TO GO

AHEAD WITH STONE'S HEARING. THAT WILL STILL ALLOW YOU
KEEP FLEXIBLE (ASSUMING HE IS RAPIDLY CONFIRMED) TO SEND
HIM TO VIENTIANE IN DUE COURSE OR NOT, AS POLICY
CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, POLICIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE129948
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JOZURHELLEN, JR:TH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750195-0456
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750681/aaaacvze.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 VIENTIANE 3953
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RECOMMENDATIONS ON FUTURE LAOS POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, MASS, US, LA
To: BANGKOK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006